

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

November 16, 2001

**Committee
Report No.**

01-229

Honorable Chair and Members
of the County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Parks and Recreation Committee, having met on October 31, 2001, makes reference to a Miscellaneous Communication dated May 21, 2001, from the County Clerk, referring the matter relating to fees at the Waiehu Golf Course and consideration of establishing twilight fees.

By correspondence dated August 10, 2001, your Committee Chair transmitted an electronic mail from the Senior Executive Assistant from the Office of the Mayor, outlining course usage and demand statistics for Waiehu Golf Course.

By correspondence dated October 2, 2001, your Committee Chair requested information relating to rates and twilight fees for comparable golf courses in the County of Maui and on neighbor islands from the Department of Parks and Recreation.

By correspondence dated October 23, 2001, the Director of Parks and Recreation provided information relating to rates and twilight fees for golf courses in the County of Maui and neighbor islands.

At its meeting, your Committee met with the Budget Director, the Director of Parks and Recreation; the Superintendent of the Waiehu Golf Course, Department of Parks and Recreation; and a Deputy Corporation Counsel.

The Director of Parks and Recreation provided your Committee with an overview of the matter. He reviewed the proposed rate changes and outlined a comparison between the current rates and proposed twilight fees at Waiehu Golf Course. He stated that even though the twilight fees may attract more afternoon play, it may reduce potential revenue for the golf course.

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The Superintendent of the Waiehu Golf Course expressed concerns that the twilight fees may reduce revenue for the course while simultaneously increasing the demand for additional maintenance. He further noted that the golf course is in dire need of repairs and the decrease in revenue would impact the ability to maintain the grounds and facilities at current levels.

In response to an inquiry by your Committee, the Superintendent stated that Friday is typically the slowest day for golf; however, the afternoons are busy starting at 3:00 p.m. Therefore, the twilight fee would not benefit the golf course revenues. He also stated that 56 percent of the play is by residents with monthly and annual cards, which permits the golfers to pay \$2.00 per round.

Your Committee noted concerns about the impact the reduced rates would have on the revenue generated by the course. Your Committee further noted that the condition of the course has been a focus of discussion during budget sessions. Since the golf course requires certain improvements, reducing revenues would impact the ability to make necessary enhancements to the golf course.

Your Committee requested that the Superintendent provide a report outlining efforts to increase play, an overview of different fee structures for municipal golf courses in Hawaii, and an overview of maintenance requirements to enhance the golf course, along with a cost analysis. Your Committee asked that this information be provided before the budget deliberations for Fiscal Year 2003.

Your Committee voted to recommend to the Budget and Finance Committee that no twilight fee be established at the Waiehu Golf Course for the Fiscal Year 2003 Budget, a copy of this committee report be referred to the Budget and Finance Committee, and the Miscellaneous Communication be filed.

Your Parks and Recreation Committee **RECOMMENDS** the following:

1. That a copy of this committee report be **TRANSMITTED** to the Budget and Finance Committee; and
2. That the Miscellaneous Communication be **FILED**.

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Adoption of this report is respectfully requested.

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